Remarks

The Office Action mailed May 12, 2004, has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 1-29 and 32-47 are now pending in this application. Claims 1-29 and 32-47 stand rejected. Claims 1, 6-8, 15, 23, 32, 39 and 41 have been amended. Claims 30-31 have been cancelled. No new matter has been added.

The rejection of Claims 15-18 and 20-29 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Henson (U.S. Patent No. 6,167,383) in view of Smith et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,052,669) is respectfully traversed.

Henson describes a web-based online store having a user interface for enabling a custom configuration of a computer system according to an identification of a user belonging to a prescribed customer set (column 2, lines 60-65). The online store includes a configurator, a cart, a checkout, and a database (column 2, lines 60-65).

Smith et al. describe a graphical user interface with a computer program for configuring and ordering office furniture (column 3, lines 60-62). A user can interact with an order generation program via the user interface to select a basic configuration of furniture, modify the configuration, create a cluster derived from the basic configuration (column 4, lines 1-4).

Claim 15 recites a system comprising "a parallel switchgear system; a device; a computer server connected to said device via a computer network and configured to receive user specifications and selected configurations; and a product configurator system configured to: receive user specifications and user selected configurations; generate a drawing and a quotation; and receive, via a single graphical user interface, selections of multiple configurations for a size of an equipment of the parallel switchgear system."

Neither Henson nor Smith et al., considered alone or in combination, describe or suggest a system as recited in Claim 15. More specifically, neither Henson nor Smith et al., considered alone or in combination, describe or suggest a parallel switchgear system and a product configurator system configured to receive, via a single graphical user interface, selections of multiple configurations for a size of an equipment of the parallel switchgear

system. Rather, Henson describes a web-based online store for enabling a custom configuration of a computer system. Smith et al. describe a computer program for configuring and ordering office furniture. Accordingly, neither Henson nor Smith et al., considered alone or in combination, describe or suggest a parallel switchgear system and a configurator system configured to receive, via a single graphical user interface, selections of multiple configurations for a size of an equipment of the parallel switchgear system. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 15 is patentable over Henson in view of Smith et al.

Claims 16-18 and 20-29 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 15. When the recitations of Claims 16-18 and 20-29 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 15, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 16-18 and 20-29 are also patentable over Henson in view of Smith et al.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that the Section 103 rejection of Claims 15-18 and 20-29 be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 1-10, 14, 19, and 39-47 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Henson in view of Chouinard (U.S. Patent No. 6,671,701) and further in view of Farrell et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,282,518) is respectfully traversed.

Henson is described above.

Chouinard describes a system including large design projects, for example, such as skyscrapers and large office complexes (column 1, lines 40-44). In the large design projects, hundreds of drawings and models for electrical, HVAC, plumbing systems etc. are generated using CAD systems (column 1, lines 40-44). Typically, these large design projects involve a variety of clients, vendors, and internal designers (column 1, lines 44-46). The clients, vendors, and internal designers may use different CAD systems (column 1, lines 46-47). For example, a plumbing contractor may use AutoCAD and a design engineer may use MicroStation (column 1, lines 47-49).

Farrell et al. describe a method in which industrial products are selected by a manufacturer (120) (column 8, lines 63-64). The manufacturer labels an identification of key parameters involved in a selection of a subset of the industrial products from an inventory set of industrial products (column 8, line 66 – column 9, line 4). The industrial products includes

an AC drive (column 12, lines 3-4). The method includes selecting horsepower associated with the AC drive, a phase associated with the AC drive, a voltage associated with the AC drive, RFI filter options associated with the AC drive, and dynamic braking options associated with the AC drive (Figure 5).

Claim 1 recites a method using a computer network-based system including a server coupled to a centralized database and at least one client system, the method comprising the steps of "accessing a product configurator system; selecting switchgear product configurations related to a parallel switchgear system from a plurality of user interfaces; receiving a bill of material and a price quotation corresponding to the parallel switchgear system; and automatically generating, via the product configurator system, an equipment elevation drawing and an electrical schematic based on information regarding the parallel switchgear system."

None of Henson, Chouinard, or Farrell et al., considered alone or in combination, describe or suggest a method as recited in Claim 1. More specifically, none of Henson, Chouinard, or Farrell et al., considered alone or in combination, describe or suggest automatically generating, via the product configurator system, an equipment elevation drawing and an electrical schematic based on information regarding the parallel switchgear system. Rather, Henson describes a web-based online store for enabling a custom configuration of a computer system. Chouinard describes a use of AutoCAD by a plumbing contractor to generate drawings and models for the electrical, HVAC, plumbing systems and a use of Microstation by a design engineer to generate the drawings and the models. Farrell et al. describe selecting horsepower associated with the AC drive, a phase associated with the AC drive, a voltage associated with the AC drive, RFI filter options associated with the AC drive, and dynamic braking options associated with the AC drive. Accordingly, none of Henson, Chouinard, or Farrell et al., considered alone or in combination, describe or suggest automatically generating an equipment elevation drawing and an electrical schematic based on information regarding the parallel switchgear system. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 1 is patentable over Henson in view of Chouinard and further in view of Farrell et al.

Claims 2-10 and 14 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 1. When the recitations of Claims 2-10 and 14 are considered in combination with the recitations of

Claim 1, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 2-10 and 14 are also patentable over Henson in view of Chouinard and further in view of Farrell et al.

Claim 19 depends indirectly from independent Claim 15 which recites a system comprising "a parallel switchgear system; a device; a computer server connected to said device via a computer network and configured to receive user specifications and selected configurations; and a product configurator system configured to: receive user specifications and user selected configurations; generate a drawing and a quotation; and receive, via a single graphical user interface, selections of multiple configurations for a size of an equipment of the parallel switchgear system."

None of Henson, Chouinard, or Farrell et al., considered alone or in combination, describe or suggest a system as recited in Claim 15. More specifically, none of Henson, Chouinard, or Farrell et al., considered alone or in combination, describe or suggest a parallel switchgear system and a product configurator system configured to receive, via a single graphical user interface, selections of multiple configurations for a size of an equipment of the parallel switchgear system. Rather, Henson describes a web-based online store for enabling a custom configuration of a computer system. Chouinard describes a use of AutoCAD by a plumbing contractor to generate drawings and models for the electrical, HVAC, plumbing systems and a use of Microstation by a design engineer to generate the drawings and the models. Farrell et al. describe selecting horsepower associated with the AC drive, a phase associated with the AC drive, a voltage associated with the AC drive, RFI filter options associated with the AC drive, and dynamic braking options associated with the AC drive. Accordingly, none of Henson, Chouinard, or Farrell et al., considered alone or in combination, describe or suggest a parallel switchgear system and a configurator system configured to receive, via a single graphical user interface, selections of multiple configurations for a size of an equipment of the parallel switchgear system. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 15 is patentable over Henson in view of Chouinard and further in view of Farrell et al.

When the recitations of Claim 19 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 15, Applicants submit that dependent Claim 19 is also patentable over Henson in view of Chouinard and further in view of Farrell et al.

Claim 39 recites a computer program embodied on a computer readable medium connected to a server coupled to a centralized database and at least one client system via a network, the computer program comprising "a code segment that receives user registration information from a user; a code segment that displays a graphic user interface to the user that selects a configuration of a parallel switchgear system; a code segment that receives selections from the user; a code segment that stores the selections into a centralized database; a code segment that cross-references the selections against a unique identifier; a code segment that provides a drawing and a quotation if the unique identifier matches the selections; and a code segment that generates an equipment elevation drawing and an electrical schematic drawing based on information regarding the parallel switchgear system."

None of Henson, Chouinard, or Farrell et al., considered alone or in combination, describe or suggest a system as recited in Claim 39. More specifically, none of Henson, Chouinard, or Farrell et al., considered alone or in combination, describe or suggest a code segment that generates an equipment elevation drawing and an electrical schematic drawing based on information regarding the parallel switchgear system. Rather, Henson describes a web-based online store for enabling a custom configuration of a computer system. Chouinard describes a use of AutoCAD by a plumbing contractor to generate drawings and models for the electrical, HVAC, plumbing systems and a use of Microstation by a design engineer to generate the drawings and the models. Farrell et al. describe selecting horsepower associated with the AC drive, a phase associated with the AC drive, a voltage associated with the AC drive, RFI filter options associated with the AC drive, and dynamic braking options associated with the AC drive. Accordingly, none of Henson, Chouinard, or Farrell et al., considered alone or in combination, describe or suggest a code segment that generates an equipment elevation drawing and an electrical schematic drawing based on information regarding the parallel switchgear system. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 39 is patentable over Henson in view of Chouinard and further in view of Farrell et al.

Claims 40-47 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 39. When the recitations of Claims 40-47 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 39, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 40-47 are also patentable over Henson in view of Chouinard and further in view of Farrell et al.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that the Section 103 rejection of Claims 1-10, 14, 19, and 39-47 be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 11-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Henson in view of Chouinard and Farrell et al. is respectfully traversed.

Henson, Chouinard, and Farrell et al. are described above.

Claims 11-13 depend indirectly from independent Claim 1 which recites a method for using a computer network-based system including a server coupled to a centralized database and at least one client system, the method comprising the steps of "accessing a product configurator system; selecting switchgear product configurations related to a parallel switchgear system from a plurality of user interfaces; receiving a bill of material and a price quotation corresponding to the parallel switchgear system; and automatically generating, via the product configurator system, an equipment elevation drawing and an electrical schematic based on information regarding the parallel switchgear system."

None of Henson, Chouinard, or Farrell et al., considered alone or in combination, describe or suggest a method as recited in Claim 1. More specifically, none of Henson, Chouinard, or Farrell et al., considered alone or in combination, describe or suggest automatically generating, via the product configurator system, an equipment elevation drawing and an electrical schematic based on information regarding the parallel switchgear system. Rather, Henson describes a web-based online store for enabling a custom configuration of a computer system. Chouinard describes a use of AutoCAD by a plumbing contractor to generate drawings and models for the electrical, HVAC, plumbing systems and a use of Microstation by a design engineer to generate the drawings and the models. Farrell et al. describe selecting horsepower associated with the AC drive, a phase associated with the AC drive, a voltage associated with the AC drive, RFI filter options associated with the AC drive, and dynamic braking options associated with the AC drive. Accordingly, none of Henson, Chouinard, or Farrell et al., considered alone or in combination, describe or suggest automatically generating an equipment elevation drawing and an electrical schematic based on information regarding the parallel switchgear system. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 1 is patentable over Henson in view of Chouinard and Farrell et al.

When the recitations of Claims 11-13 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 1, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 11-13 are also patentable over Henson in view of Chouinard and Farrell et al.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that the Section 103 rejection of Claims 11-13 be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 32-38 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Henson in view of Farrell et al. is respectfully traversed.

Henson and Farrell et al. are described above.

Claim 32 recites a computer-readable medium, comprising "a record of parallel switchgear system configurations of a parallel switchgear system; a plurality of rules configured to match the record against customer submitted selections and configured to generate a particular configuration of the parallel switchgear system, wherein the rules are applied by a server; and a record of results provided to a user via a graphical user interface from applying the matching rules to the customer submitted selections; and selections, received via a single graphical user interface, of multiple configurations for a size of an equipment of the parallel switchgear system."

Neither Henson nor Farrell et al., considered alone or in combination, describe or suggest a computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 32. More specifically, neither Henson nor Farrell et al., considered alone or in combination, describe or suggest a computer-readable medium including selections, received via a single graphical user interface, of multiple configurations for a size of an equipment of the parallel switchgear system. Rather, Henson describes a web-based online store for enabling a custom configuration of a computer system and Farrell et al. describe selecting horsepower associated with the AC drive, a phase associated with the AC drive, a voltage associated with the AC drive, RFI filter options associated with the AC drive, and dynamic braking options associated with the AC drive. Accordingly, neither Henson nor Farrell et al., considered alone or in combination, describe or suggest a computer-readable medium including selections, received via a single graphical user interface, of multiple configurations for a size of an equipment of the parallel switchgear system. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 32 is patentable over Henson in view of Farrell et al.

Claims 33-38 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 32. When the recitations of Claims 33-38 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 32, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 33-38 are also patentable over Henson in view of Farrell et al.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that the Section 103 rejection of Claims 32-38 be withdrawn.

Moreover, Applicants respectfully submit that the Section 103 rejections of Claims 1-29 and 32-47 are not proper rejections. As is well established, obviousness cannot be established by combining the teachings of the cited art to produce the claimed invention, absent some teaching, suggestion, or incentive supporting the combinations. None of Henson, Smith et al., Chouinard, or Farrell et al., considered alone or in combination, describe or suggest the claimed combinations. Furthermore, in contrast to the assertion within the Office Action, Applicants respectfully submit that it would not be obvious to one skilled in the art to combine Henson with Smith et al., Chouinard, or Farrell et al. because there is no motivation to combine the references suggested in the cited art itself.

As the Federal Circuit has recognized, obviousness is not established merely by combining references having different individual elements of pending claims. Ex parte Levengood, 28 U.S.P.Q.2d 1300 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1993). MPEP 2143.01. Rather, there must be some suggestion, outside of Applicants' disclosure, in the prior art to combine such references, and a reasonable expectation of success must be both found in the prior art, and not based on Applicants' disclosure. In re Vaeck, 20 U.S.P.Q.2d 1436 (Fed. Cir. 1991). In the present case, neither a suggestion or motivation to combine the prior art disclosures, nor any reasonable expectation of success has been shown.

Furthermore, it is impermissible to use the claimed invention as an instruction manual or "template" to piece together the teachings of the cited art so that the claimed invention is rendered obvious. Specifically, one cannot use hindsight reconstruction to pick and choose among isolated disclosures in the art to deprecate the claimed invention. Further, it is impermissible to pick and choose from any one reference only so much of it as will support a given position, to the exclusion of other parts necessary to the full appreciation of what such reference fairly suggests to one of ordinary skill in the art. The present Section 103 rejections are based on combinations of teachings selected from multiple patents in an attempt to arrive at the claimed invention. Specifically, Henson teaches a web-based online store for enabling a custom configuration of a computer system. Smith et al. teach a computer program for configuring and ordering office furniture. Chouinard teaches a use of AutoCAD by a plumbing contractor to generate drawings and models for the electrical, HVAC, plumbing systems and a use of Microstation by a design engineer to generate the drawings and the
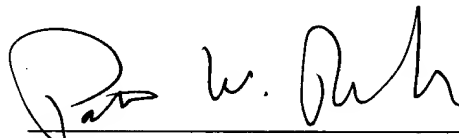
models. Farrell et al. teach selecting horsepower associated with the AC drive, a phase associated with the AC drive, a voltage associated with the AC drive, RFI filter options associated with the AC drive, and dynamic braking options associated with the AC drive. Since there is no teaching nor suggestion in the cited art for the combination, the Section 103 rejection appears to be based on a hindsight reconstruction in which isolated disclosures have been picked and chosen in an attempt to deprecate the present invention. Of course, such combinations are impermissible, and for this reason alone, Applicants request that the Section 103 rejections of Claims 1-29 and 32-47 be withdrawn.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of 1-29 and 32-47 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all the claims now active in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

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